

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Type all entries - complete applicable sections)

STATE: Georgia	
COUNTY: Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

1. NAME
COMMON: Tupper-Barnett House <i>NHL</i>
AND/OR HISTORIC:

2. LOCATION			
STREET AND NUMBER: 101 West Robert Toombs Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington			
STATE: Georgia	CODE: 13	COUNTY: Wilkes	CODE: 317

3. CLASSIFICATION				
CATEGORY (Check One)	OWNERSHIP		STATUS	ACCESSIBLE TO THE PUBLIC
<input type="checkbox"/> District <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Building <input type="checkbox"/> Site <input type="checkbox"/> Structure <input type="checkbox"/> Object	<input type="checkbox"/> Public <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private <input type="checkbox"/> Both	Public Acquisition: <input type="checkbox"/> In Process <input type="checkbox"/> Being Considered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Occupied <input type="checkbox"/> Unoccupied <input type="checkbox"/> Preservation work in progress	Yes: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Restricted <input type="checkbox"/> Unrestricted <input type="checkbox"/> No
PRESENT USE (Check One or More as Appropriate)				
<input type="checkbox"/> Agricultural <input type="checkbox"/> Commercial <input type="checkbox"/> Educational <input type="checkbox"/> Entertainment	<input type="checkbox"/> Government <input type="checkbox"/> Industrial <input type="checkbox"/> Military <input type="checkbox"/> Museum	<input type="checkbox"/> Park <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Private Residence <input type="checkbox"/> Religious <input type="checkbox"/> Scientific	<input type="checkbox"/> Transportation <input type="checkbox"/> Other (Specify) _____ _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Comments _____ _____

4. OWNER OF PROPERTY			
OWNER'S NAME: Mr. and Mrs. Marion Barnett			
STREET AND NUMBER: 101 West Robert Toombs Avenue			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: Georgia	CODE: 13	STATE: Georgia

5. LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION			
COURTHOUSE, REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.: Office of Clerk of Superior Court, Wilkes County			
STREET AND NUMBER: Court Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Washington	STATE: Georgia	CODE: 13	COUNTY: Wilkes

6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS			
TITLE OF SURVEY: Washington Comprehensive Plan, Historic Area Study			
DATE OF SURVEY: 1968	<input type="checkbox"/> Federal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> State	<input type="checkbox"/> County <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Local
DEPOSITORY FOR SURVEY RECORDS: Georgia Historical Commission			
STREET AND NUMBER: 116 Mitchell Street			
CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta	STATE: Georgia	CODE: 13	DATE

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

7. DESCRIPTION

CONDITION	(Check One)					
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> Good	<input type="checkbox"/> Fair	<input type="checkbox"/> Deteriorated	<input type="checkbox"/> Ruins	<input type="checkbox"/> Unexposed
	(Check One)			(Check One)		
	<input type="checkbox"/> Altered	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Unaltered	<input type="checkbox"/> Moved	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Original Site		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (If known) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The Tupper-Barnett House is a two-story, white frame structure on a high daylight basement, surrounded by a splendid peristyle Doric colonnade. A divided stairway leads from ground level to this portico. The colonnade, c. 1860, has been so skillfully wrapped around an earlier Federal style house, c. 1832, that it appears to be a part of the original fabric of the home.

A bold and simplified entablature on eighteen fluted Doric columns has been attached to the earlier structure by slanting its roof in to meet the line of the older hipped roof, thus providing a logical connection for the added feature. Brick piers carry the line of the columns to the ground and define a covered walkway under the porch. A front entrance into this lower floor where the study and kitchen are located, is framed by side lights. The main entrance doorway with its elegant elliptical fan light and side lights is framed by slender fluted pilasters. This motif is repeated above a delicate iron balcony. An iron fence which matched this balcony once surrounded the house on the south and east street sides, but was taken down many years ago and replaced by the white picket fence. The iron fence between brick piers that stands in front today is of similar vintage as the house but was originally built for a house in Augusta. The only other post-bellum changes are an exterior staircase to the upstairs and a later bathroom wing that have been inserted in the back on the portico.

The house was built on the common 1840's type of simple, four-room central hall plan with a straight run stairway returned on itself to the upstairs at the back of the hall. The two front parlors are larger than the rear bedrooms and have wide openings into the hall that can be closed by folding doors. Mantels in these parlors are richly elaborated by sunbursts raised on a center panel in the entablature and framed by slender pilasters. The entablature and cornice are projected at the ends as well as in the center panel. In the bedrooms there are no sunbursts but otherwise the detailing is similar. Mantels on the basement floor are lower and simpler versions of this general arrangement. All of the detailing such as these mantels and the moldings, door and window frames is handled with a high degree of craftsmanship.

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

N. SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD (Check One or More as Appropriate)

☐ Pre-Columbian☐ 16th Century☐ 18th Century☐ 20th Century☐ 15th Century☐ 17th Century☒ 19th Century

SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If Applicable and Known) c. 1832, 1860

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE (Check One or More as Appropriate)

Aboriginal

☐ Prehistoric☐ Historic☐ Agriculture☒ Architecture☐ Art☐ Commerce☐ Communications☐ Conservation☐ Education☐ Engineering☐ Industry☐ Invention☐ Landscape☐ Architecture☐ Literature☐ Military☐ Music☐ Political☐ Religion/Phi-

losophy

☐ Science☐ Sculpture☐ Social/Human-

itarian

☐ Theater☐ Transportation☐ Urban Planning☒ Other (Specify)

History

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

The Tupper-Barnett House, Frederick D. Nichols says in The Early Architecture of Georgia, is "the ultimate example of a peristyle entirely around the house." Indeed, the quality of this colonnade which has been so skillfully joined to an earlier Federal style house, is outstanding. The fine detailing of both columns and entablature, the well-proportioned relationship between the colonnade and the original house and the ingenious manner in which they are joined, suggests an architect or carpenter-designer of considerable talent. Unfortunately, here, as with the other Washington houses, no document has been found that would provide the name of the designer. Neither does a designer's name remain for the handsome Federal style house which the columns encircle, but again the fine detailing of its doors, windows and mantels is well handled. When considered in the context of the general history of the Greek Revival in Georgia and the rich antebellum heritage of the town of Washington, the Tupper-Barnett House is clearly one of the finest examples of its kind.

The home was brought to its present form about 1860 by a distinguished citizen of Washington, Henry Allen Tupper, a beloved and respected Baptist minister. Born in Charleston and educated at Madison College (now Colgate University, Hamilton, New York), Tupper came to Washington in 1853 and became a man of considerable influence. After twenty years as pastor of the Washington Baptist Church, he accepted the office of corresponding secretary of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Southern Baptist Convention and moved to Richmond, Virginia. The house to which Tupper added the colonnade c. 1860 was a gift, June 25, 1853, from his wife Nancy's father, Ker Boyce of Charleston.

This house was the two-story, eight-room Federal style house built by William H. Pope c. 1832. William Pope had bought from his brother Alexander Pope in January, 1832, for \$200 town lot number eighteen. This was one acre which had changed hands several times previously for an average \$100 price. The lot apparently contained a small house lived in by a Negro man called John the Shoemaker and each time the purchaser assumed the care of this man. By 1837, when William H. Pope sold his house and lot with some added acreage this stipulation was omitted and the price was \$6200. By 1843 Francis T. Willis, later the donor of Washington's library, was living in the house and early in the 1850's the property was sold, first to Benjamin Bowdre and second to John R. Semmes. It was from John Semmes that Ker Boyce bought it in 1853.

After the Tuppers lived there the house was sold to Mrs. Catherine R. Chase from South Carolina, whose daughter Hattie Chase Kemme apparently gave it to her children, Katie Kemme Jones and John Chase Kemme. It is reported that Mrs. Kemme kept a quality boarding house there at one time.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Eliza Bowen, The Story of Wilkes County, Georgia (Marietta, 1950).
 Georgia Writer's Project, W.P.A., The Story of Washington-Wilkes (Athens, 1941).
 Dumas Malone, ed., Dictionary of American Biography (New York, 1932).
 Willis C. Lindsey, Sr., Homes and Sites of the Residents of Washington, Wilkes County, Georgia, compiled 1953-1958.
 Willis C. Lindsey, Sr., A History of Washington, Wilkes County, Georgia, typewritten bound manuscript.
 Frederick Doveton Nichols, The Early Architecture of Georgia (Chapel Hill, 1957).
 Elizabeth A. Lyon, personal inspection, July, September, 1971.

10. GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING A RECTANGLE LOCATING THE PROPERTY				OR	LATITUDE AND LONGITUDE COORDINATES DEFINING THE CENTER POINT OF A PROPERTY OF LESS THAN TEN ACRES			
CORNER	LATITUDE				LONGITUDE			
	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds		Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	
NW	°	'	"		33°	44'	15"	
NE	°	'	"		82°	44'	32"	
SE	°	'	"					
SW	°	'	"					

APPROXIMATE ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY: 6.21 acres

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE:	CODE	COUNTY	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE
STATE:	CODE	COUNTY:	CODE

11. FORM PREPARED BY

NAME AND TITLE: Dr. Elizabeth A. Lyon, consultant, Washington-Wilkes Historic Foundation	
ORGANIZATION Department of the History of Art	DATE October 25, 1971
STREET AND NUMBER: Emory University	
CITY OR TOWN: Atlanta	STATE Georgia
	CODE 13

12. STATE LIAISON OFFICER CERTIFICATION

NATIONAL REGISTER VERIFICATION

As the designated State Liaison Officer for the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), I hereby nominate this property for inclusion in the National Register and certify that it has been evaluated according to the criteria and procedures set forth by the National Park Service. The recommended level of significance of this nomination is:

National ☒ State ☐ Local ☐

Name

Mary Gregory Juett

Title State Liaison Officer

Date

January 12, 1972

I hereby certify that this property is included in the National Register.

Chief, Office of Archeology and Historic Preservation

Date

ATTEST:

Keeper of The National Register

Date

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES
INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

STATE Georgia	
COUNTY Wilkes	
FOR NPS USE ONLY	
ENTRY NUMBER	DATE

(Number all entries)

8. Significance

From the Kemme family Edward Augustus Barnett bought the property on November 20, 1908, and moved into town from his plantation about eight miles west of Washington, much in the manner of the planters of ante-bellum days. Barnett, who was mayor of Washington during World War I, made this his townhouse from which he supervised his lands in the county. In 1937 it became the home of Barnett's son, Marion Hill Barnett and his wife Mary Ficklen Barnett.

The Barnetts have kept this house in excellent condition befitting its fine architectural quality. Its surroundings have changed. The boxwood maze garden in which Reverend Tupper walked and counselled the young people of Washington disappeared some time ago; a new Baptist Church has been built next door; and business buildings have moved down West Robert Toombs Avenue opposite its iron fence; but the Tupper-Barnett House, the dignified, columned townhouse which graced this corner during the Civil War, still stands.

STATE HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT OF GEORGIA
DIVISION OF HIGHWAY PLANNING
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
FEDERAL HIGHWAY ADMINISTRATION

CITY MAP

WASHINGTON
WILKES COUNTY

SCALE IN FEET

0 660 1320

POPULATION 4,443 (1960)

1969

G.M.D. 64

4451 N SE
(CELESTE)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

